

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 and 23-37 are pending in the action, with claims 1 and 23 being independent. Claims 1 and 23 are amended. Amendments to claims 1 and 23 are made solely from clarification purposes and are not narrowing amendments are fully supported in the specification. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 3, 5-6, 11-14, 23-25, 27-28 and 33-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by USP No. 6,898,722 to **Anzai**.

Claims 2, 15, 24 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over **Anzai**.

Claims 4 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over **Anzai** in view of USP No. 5,732,249 to **Masuda**.

Claims 7 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over **Anzai** in view of USP No. 5,355,468 to **McDaniel**.

Claims 8-10 and 30-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over **Anzai** in view of USP No. 5,355,468 to **Jeppesen**.

Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections. Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested in light of the following comments and remarks.

Interview Summary

Applicant would like to thank Examiner Chen for his courtesy and professionalism in conducting an interview on July 20, 2007, after issuance of the Final Office Action dated April 20, 2007. The following is a summary of the interview:

1. No exhibit or demonstration was conducted.
2. Claims 1 and 23 were discussed.
3. The general nature of the cited reference Anzai (USP No. 6,898,722) was discussed.
4. Amendment to claims 1 and 23 was agreed upon to distinguish over Anzai.

Particularly, the Examiner has acknowledged that the amendments to claims 1 and 23 overcome Anzai.

5. No other pertinent matters were discussed.

Section 102(b) Rejections

Claims 1, 3, 5-6, 11-14, 23-25, 27-28 and 33-36 are rejected as being anticipated by Anzai.

Claim 1, as amended, recites in part a driver in communication with a clock bus, the driver to drive and maintain a voltage of the clock bus to a first voltage level when a clock transmitter is not transmitting a clock signal on the clock bus and a clock receiver is not receiving a clock signal on the clock bus.

In the "Response to Arguments" section, the Examiner has suggested that the claim language of original claim 1 does not indicate when the maintaining of the voltage of the clock bus to a first voltage level actually begins. *See*, page 7, last 5 lines of Office Action.

Although Applicant believes that the term "while" as recited in original claim 1 already specifies when the voltage of the clock bus is to be maintained at a first voltage level, Applicant has amended claim 1 which now explicitly sets forth that the driver drives and maintains a voltage of the clock bus to a first voltage level when (e.g., as soon as) the clock transmitter is not transmitting a clock signal on the clock bus and a clock receiver is not receiving a clock signal on the clock bus.

As agreed upon by the Examiner during the telephonic interview, the foregoing amended language of claim 1 overcomes Anzai. Indeed, Anzai's clock transmitter is still transmitting clock signals during the high state of transfer clock signal 'c': system clock 'd' is continuously transmitting, and internal clock 'h' continues transmitting a clock signal until the falling edge of transfer clock signal 'c'. *See*, Fig. 5.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that Anzai does not anticipate claim 1 and that claim 1 is therefore allowable. Claims 2-15 depend on claim 1, and also are submitted to be allowable for at least the reasons discussed with respect to claim 1.

Claim 23

Claim 23, as amended, also recites a voltage driving means for driving and maintaining a voltage of a clock bus to a first voltage level when a clock signal transmission means is not

transmitting a clock signal on the clock bus and a clock signal receiving means is not receiving a clock signal on the clock bus.

As discussed above, Anzai does not teach or suggest at least these features. For at least the reasons discussed with respect to amended claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that Anzai does not anticipate claim 23 and that claim 23 is therefore allowable. Claims 24-37 depend on claim 23, and also are submitted to be allowable for at least reasons discussed with respect to claim 23.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully requests that all pending claims be allowed.

By responding in the foregoing remarks only to particular positions taken by the Examiner, Applicant does not acquiesce with other positions that have not been explicitly addressed. In addition, Applicant's arguments for the patentability of a claim should not be understood as implying that no other reasons for the patentability of that claim exist.

For all of the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance, an indication of which is respectfully solicited.

If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicant's representative at the telephone number shown below.

Please apply \$120 for a one-month petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account 06-1050 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 20, 2007

/Alex Chan/

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